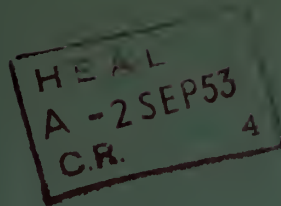


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LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

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To: The Chairman and Members of the Leiston-cum-Sizewell
Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of
the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1952.

During 1952 the population was approximately the
same as in 1951. There were 6 fewer deaths and 17 fewer
births. This suggests a gradually "ageing" population
as a whole. It is anticipated that this trend towards
a greater proportion of older people will continue.

The full repercussion on Leiston as a "Sanitary
Authority" will not be felt for some years, but, unless
facilities for older people's welfare keep pace with the
tendency of the population to live longer, District
Councils will be faced with the sanitary aspects and
difficulties of old people living alone in difficult
circumstances.

Amongst the deaths two were of infants under the
age of 1 year. Neither of these deaths could be attri-
buted to environmental defects.

This year there was no serious epidemic of infectious
disease. In spite of the fact that there was a crop of
cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis in the surrounding
district, there were only three recorded cases in Leiston.

As pointed out in last year's report, the Diphtheria
Immunisation state must be kept in mind by all. This
should be regarded as a continuous effort to ensure that
as many children as possible are immunised before their
first birthday and are given a re-inforcing injection
during their fifth year.

It gives satisfaction to report that, as a result
of a survey of well water supply to some of the more out-
lying properties, the Council are taking steps to bring
the main water supply within reach of those households
with an unsatisfactory supply.

/Special-----

Special mention has been made of the Slaughter-House, as similar premises in other districts have been subject to comment. I do not recommend any special action on the part of the Council at present as I feel that this matter concerns the Ministry of Food, although I do feel that, ideally, slaughterhouses should be away from built-up areas.

This annual report is prepared as far as possible on the lines indicated in Circular 42/51. of the Ministry of Health. Its object is to show from the Vital Statistics and other data collected from your Officers, the general state of health of Leiston as a whole. From the information at my disposal I feel that Leiston had a healthy year during 1952.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council and in particular the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and its Officers for their great co-operation and courtesy.

On the whole 1952, compares satisfactorily with previous years.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant,

J. B. Kershaw.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres).....	4,466	(4,466)
Registrar General's Estimate of Population .. (June 1952)	4,048	(4,079)
Number of Inhabited Houses.....	1,382	(1,372)
Rateable Value.....	£21,429	(£21,137)
Product of Penny Rate.....	£84	(£83)

1951 Figures in Parenthesis

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VITAL STATISTICS

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Live Births	25	17	42
(Illegitimate Births).....	(-)	(1)	(1)

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population = 10.4
Rate per 1,000 Population
(England & Wales) = 15.3
Comparability Factor = 1.21

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Stillbirths (Legitimate)	-	-	-
(Illegitimate)	-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 Population
(England & Wales) = .35

Maternal Mortality NIL

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age = 2

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births = 47.6

Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births
(England & Wales) = 27.6

DEATHS.MALES

34

FEMALES

23

TOTAL

57

Death rate per 1,000 population

= 14.1

England and Wales

= 11.3

Comparability Factor

= 0.74

CAUSES OF DEATHS

	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0
Septicaemia	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1
Other malignant neoplasms	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	2
Coronary disease, angina	6	7
Other heart disease	8	4
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Pneumonia	1	1
Bronchitis	1	0
Nephritis	1	0
Other defined and ill-defined disease	2	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0
All other accidents	2	1
	<u>34</u>	<u>23</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following confirmed cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:-

	Males	Females
Scarlet Fever	2	1
Measles	7	7
Whooping Cough	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	2	2
Erysipelas	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (non-Paralytic)	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	-

The case of the food-poisoning was that of a 2 year old boy. The causal organism was identified by the Public Health Laboratory but the source of infection was not discovered.

The case of paralytic Poliomyelitis was an adult. The other two non-paralytic cases were school-children, both of whom are fit and well at the time of writing this report.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTAL
	Pulm-onary	Non-Pulm.	Pulm-onary	Non-Pulm.	
Number of cases on register at beginning of year.	10	2	6	6	24
Number of cases added during the year.	1	-	2	1	4
Number removed during the year.	1	1	1	3	6
Number of cases on register at end of the year	10	1	7	4	22

Additions to the Register.

New notifications = 4

Removals from Register.

Recovered = 4

Died = 1

Removed from District = 1

A special report was asked for by the Housing Committee in connection with one case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT. 1947.

It was not found necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act. This Section relates to the removal to an institution of persons in need of care and attention who are unwilling to go but for whom it is considered that it is in their best interests that they should be cared for in this way.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following information in respect of the Urban District for 1952:-

Number of pre-school children immunised	43
Number of school children immunised	2
Number of Reinforcing (Booster) injections	50

In previous years it has been possible to express as a percentage the number of children living in the district who have been immunised against Diphtheria. Unfortunately the Registrar-General is no longer able to supply estimates of child population in County Districts and this percentage cannot be given.

A reduction in the number of children immunised has been taking place for several years and, last year, The County Council attempted to stem this downward trend by intensifying its propaganda. It so happened that the commencement of the propaganda campaign coincided with an outbreak of Poliomyelitis in the surrounding district and, in many cases, the immunisation of children was deferred until the cooler weather.

It is hoped that parents will no longer be deterred from taking advantage of the facilities provided as the immunisation of children against Diphtheria is vital in maintaining the present low level of the disease in the population of the Country as a whole.

MILK.

1. Producers.

The County Public Health Staff took five samples of milk from the herds of producers during the year. None of the samples was found to contain Tubercle Bacilli or Brucella Organisms.

2. Dealers.

Four dealers were registered for the sale of specially designated milk.

WATER

Main Water

1. The main water supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity. The Council have taken steps to convert the existing bore into a well.
2. Two samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis in February and July and the water was stated to be of very good organic quality with no sign of dangerous pollution.
3. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.
4. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination
5. Samples were submitted regularly to the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich. In every case the findings were satisfactory.

WELLS

4 Properties previously supplied by well water were connected to the main town supply.

A survey of the Bacteriological condition and Nitrate content of the wells which supply 25 outlying properties was conducted.

In the case of 21 properties the water supply was found to be unsatisfactory. The Council are preparing to extend the main water supply to reach these properties.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle including Cows.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs
Number Killed	1,155	407	1,691	1,915
Number Inspected	1,155	407	1,691	1,915
All Diseases except T.B. Whole carcases condem- ned	4	3	5	5
T.B. Only Whole Carcases condem- ned	6	-	2	-

The total weight of meat and offal condemned as being either diseased, unsound or unfit for human consumption was:-

<u>TONS.</u>	<u>CWTS.</u>	<u>QRS.</u>	<u>LBS.</u>
8	14	1	9

THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The meat is inspected after slaughter by the Sanitary Inspector as to fitness for human consumption. The Slaughterhouse and procedure of slaughter are the responsibility of the Ministry of Food and its officials. The facilities at the Slaughterhouse in respect of lairage, separation of diseased and condemned carcasses and such matters as running hot water for the Slaughtermen are not adequate.

It is also felt that the present site in the centre of the town, bounded on three sides by the Cinema, houses and food shops respectively is hardly ideal, but it is understood the future policy with respect to slaughter is a matter for the Government.

OTHER FOODS.

Shops and places where food is prepared, including the manufacture and sale of ice-cream, continued to be inspected regularly.

Premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream	1
Premises where pre-packed ice-cream is sold	10

The following items of food were condemned during the year:-

23 Tins of Milk
49 Tins of Meat
27 Tins of Fish
32 Tins of Vegetables
26 Tins of Fruit

together with other small quantities of untinned foods.

HOUSING.

Local Authority. 2 four bedroomed type were completed.

Private Enterprise. 7 Houses were completed.

No Improvement Grants were made under the Housing Act, 1949.

PAIL CLOSETS

Premises where there are pail-closets have their night-soil collected by the Council. Pails are emptied from Sizewell Common, Abbey Road, Highbury Cottages and Coldfair Green in the Urban District.

In addition, a night-soil collection service is provided for properties in the Parish of Knodishall in the Blyth Rural District.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

The Refuse tips, Sewage Works and Sewers have received regular treatments for the destruction of rats, no serious infestations were found.

FACTORIES ACTS 1938 AND 1948.

The following details have been abstracted from the Annual Report of the Medical Officer submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service:-

Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories with Mechanical power	6	4	-	-
(ii) Factories without Mechanical Power	29	30	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	35	34	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:-

NIL

One outworker, engaged in gloving was registered

